

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are presented in their entirety below, with the exception of any claims that may be canceled. The cancellation of any claim is without prejudice to the subject matter contained therein. The Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of any canceled claim in divisional application(s), if appropriate.

1. (Previously Presented) A windshield assembly, comprising:
a windshield panel movable between an operative position and two inoperative positions, wherein the operative position lies between the two inoperative positions; and
a coupling assembly coupled to the windshield panel, the coupling assembly including at least one coupling member that enables the windshield panel to move between the operative position and the inoperative positions,
wherein the inoperative positions include both a forward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing a windward side of the windshield panel and a rearward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing away from the windward side of the windshield panel.

2. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 1, wherein the coupling assembly includes a first end defining a mounting bracket and a second end defining a pivot point about which the windshield panel pivots.

3. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 2, wherein the second end includes ratchet washers that allow one-way movement only.

4. - 5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 1, wherein the windshield panel comprises polycarbonate plastic.

7. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 1, further comprising a handguard element connected to the windshield panel.

8. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 7, wherein the handguard element includes a central portion and a pair of hand protecting members integrally extending from opposite sides of the central portion.

9. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 7, wherein the handguard element comprises plastic.

10. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 7, further comprising at least one bracket assembly that mounts to the windshield panel.

11. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 10, wherein the at least one bracket assembly comprises a T-shaped element having a vertical section and a horizontal section, the vertical section includes at least one fastening hole defined therein that enables at least one fastener to pass therethrough, and the horizontal section includes at least one fastening hole defined therein that enable at least one fastener to pass therethrough.

12. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 11, wherein the windshield panel is attached to the vertical section of the T-shaped element via at least one fastener that passes through at least one hole defined in the windshield panel and the fastening hole defined in the vertical section.

13. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 11, wherein the handguard element is attached to the horizontal section of the T-shaped element via at least one fastener that passes through at least one hole defined in the handguard element and the fastening hole defined in the horizontal section.

14. (Original) The windshield assembly according to claim 11, wherein at least a portion of the windshield panel is transparent.

15. (Previously Presented) A vehicle, comprising:

- a frame;
- at least one ground contacting element suspended from the frame to provide an interface between the frame and ground;
- a handlebar operatively connected to the ground contacting element to steer the vehicle;
- a seat positioned on the frame; and
- a windshield assembly mounted on the frame, wherein the windshield assembly comprises a windshield panel movable between an operative position and two inoperative positions, wherein the operative position lies between the two inoperative positions, and a coupling assembly between the handlebar and the windshield panel, the coupling assembly including at least one coupling member that enables the windshield panel to move between

the operative position and the inoperative positions, wherein the inoperative positions include both a forward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing away from the seat and a rearward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction toward the seat.

16. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 15, wherein the coupling assembly includes a first end defining a mounting bracket and a second end defining a pivot point about which the windshield panel pivots.

17. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 16, wherein the second end includes ratchet washers that allow one-way movement only.

18. – 19. (Canceled).

20. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 15, wherein the windshield panel comprises polycarbonate plastic.

21. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 15, further comprising a handguard element connected to the windshield panel.

22. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 21, wherein the handguard element comprises a central portion and a pair of hand protecting members integrally extending from opposite sides of the central portion.

23. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 21, wherein handguard element comprises plastic.

24. (Original) The vehicle according to claim 21, further comprising at least one bracket assembly for mounting the windshield panel to the handguard element.

25. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 24, wherein the at least one bracket assembly comprises a T-shaped element having a vertical section and a horizontal section, the vertical section of the T-shaped element includes a fastening hole defined therein that enables a fastener to pass therethrough, and the horizontal section includes at least one fastening hole defined therein that enable at least one fastener to pass therethrough.

26. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 25, wherein the windshield panel is attached to the vertical section of the T-shaped element via a fastener that passes through a fastening hole defined in the windshield panel and a fastening hole defined in the vertical section.

27. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 25, wherein the handguard element is attached to the horizontal section of the T-shaped element via a fastener that passes through the at least one fastening hole defined in the handguard element and the at least one fastening hole defined in the horizontal section.

28. (Original) The vehicle according to claim 21, wherein the handguard element is formed integrally with the windshield panel.

29. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 15, wherein the ground contacting element comprises a pair of front wheels and a pair of rear wheels suspended from the frame and the vehicle is an all terrain vehicle.

30. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 15, wherein the ground contacting element comprises a pair of front skis and a drive belt and the vehicle is a snowmobile.

31. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 15, wherein at least a portion of the windshield panel is transparent.

32. – 34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously Presented) An all-terrain vehicle, comprising:

- a frame;
- a pair of front wheels and a pair of rear wheels suspended from the frame;
- an engine operatively coupled to provide motive force to at least one of the pair of front and rear wheels and selectively operable to provide motive force to both the front and rear pairs of wheels;
- a handlebar operatively connected to the front pair of wheels to steer the vehicle;
- a straddle-type seat positioned on the frame;
- a pair of footrests, one on each lateral side of the straddle-type seat; and
- a windshield assembly mounted on the frame, the windshield assembly comprising a windshield panel movable between an operative position and an inoperative position, and a

coupling assembly between the handlebar and the windshield panel, the coupling assembly including at least one coupling member that enables the windshield panel to move between the operative position and the inoperative position, wherein the inoperative position includes a rearward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing away from a windward side of the windshield panel, wherein the windshield panel is substantially horizontal and adjacent the straddle-type seat such that wind pressure on the windshield panel is substantially reduced during transport of the vehicle.

36. (Previously Presented) An all-terrain vehicle according to claim 35, wherein a width between the front pair of wheels is greater than a width of the handlebar.

37. (Previously Presented) A windshield assembly, comprising:

a windshield panel movable between an operative position and an inoperative position; and

a coupling assembly coupled to the windshield panel, the coupling assembly including at least one coupling member that enables the windshield panel to move between the operative position and the inoperative position,

wherein the inoperative position includes a forward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing a windward side of the windshield panel and a rearward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing away from the windward side of the windshield panel, and

wherein the coupling assembly includes a first end defining a mounting bracket and a second end defining a pivot point about which the windshield panel pivots, wherein the second end includes ratchet washers that allow one-way movement only.

38. (Previously Presented) A windshield assembly, comprising:

a windshield panel movable between an operative position and an inoperative position;

a coupling assembly coupled to the windshield panel, the coupling assembly including at least one coupling member that enables the windshield panel to move between the operative position and the inoperative position,

wherein the inoperative position includes a forward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing a windward side of the windshield panel and a rearward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing away from the windward side of the windshield panel; and

a handguard element connected to the windshield panel.

39. (Previously Presented) The windshield assembly according to claim 38, wherein the handguard element includes a central portion and a pair of hand protecting members integrally extending from opposite sides of the central portion.

40. (Previously Presented) A vehicle, comprising:

a frame;

a plurality of wheels suspended from the frame;

a handlebar operatively connected to the wheels to steer the vehicle;

a seat positioned on the frame; and

a windshield assembly mounted on the frame, the windshield assembly comprising a windshield panel movable between an operative position and an inoperative position, and a

coupling assembly between the handlebar and the windshield panel, the coupling assembly including at least one coupling member that enables the windshield panel to move between the operative position and the inoperative position, wherein the inoperative position includes a forward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing away from the seat and a rearward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction toward the seat,

wherein the coupling assembly includes a first end defining a mounting bracket and a second end defining a pivot point about which the windshield panel pivots and the second end includes ratchet washers that allow one-way movement only.

41. (Previously Presented) A vehicle, comprising:

a frame;

a plurality of wheels suspended from the frame;

a handlebar operatively connected to the wheels to steer the vehicle;

a seat positioned on the frame;

a windshield assembly mounted on the frame, the windshield assembly comprising a windshield panel movable between an operative position and an inoperative position, and a coupling assembly between the handlebar and the windshield panel, the coupling assembly including at least one coupling member that enables the windshield panel to move between the operative position and the inoperative position, wherein the inoperative position includes a forward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction facing away from the seat and a rearward position in which the windshield panel is displaced from the operative position in a direction toward the seat; and

a handguard element connected to the windshield panel.

42. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 41, wherein the handguard element includes a central portion and a pair of hand protecting members integrally extending from opposite sides of the central portion.